

DAHLIA PLANT NAMED 'BOUNTY'

Genus and species of the plant claimed:

Dahlia hortorum

5 Variety denomination:

Bounty

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present Invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Dahlia* plant, botanically known as *Dahlia hortorum*, and hereinafter referred to by the name 10 'Bounty'. The new cultivar 'Bounty' is a product of a planned breeding program and was selected by the Inventor, Jan Skojd Knudsen, in Fyn, Denmark.

Asexual reproduction by cuttings of the new variety in Fyn, Denmark has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as described herein for 'Bounty' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual 15 reproduction. The new variety reproduces true to type.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

'Bounty' has not been tested under all available environmental conditions and the phenotype may vary with variations in environmental conditions such as temperature, light intensity, day length and humidity, without a change in genotype of 20 the plant.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'Bounty'. The following characteristics in combination distinguish 'Bounty' as a new and distinct cultivar:

1. White flower color, RHS 155A;

2. Compact plant habit; and
3. Vigorous growth habit.

Of the commercial cultivars known to the Inventor, the most similar in comparison to ‘Bounty’ is a *Dahlia* variety named ‘Tonga’ (unpatented). ‘Bounty’ 5 differs from ‘Tonga’ primarily in flower color. ‘Bounty’ has white flowers, RHS 155A, whereas the flower color of ‘Tonga’ is gray-red, RHS 181C to gray-yellow, RHS 161A.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying color photographs illustrate the overall appearance and details of flower form color and structures of the new cultivar, showing the colors as 10 true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in color reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the detailed botanical description, which more accurately describe the actual colors of the new *Dahlia*.

The first photograph is a side view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Bounty’ as 15 grown in an 11 cm pot. The second photograph is a top view of a typical flowering plant of ‘Bounty’. The third photograph is a close-up of the flower of ‘Bounty’.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and values describe plants grown under commercial conditions. Plants described were grown in a greenhouse in Fyn, 20 Denmark with average day temperatures of 18 °C to 25 °C, and night temperature of 16 °C. All color references are measured against the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Colour Chart. Colors are approximate as color depends on horticultural

practices such as light level and treatment rate, among others, without however any variance in genotype.

PLANT:

Form: Globular, upright

5 Height: 20 cm

Spread: 20 cm

Natural flowering season: Summer to fall

Crop time: After rooting, about 10 - 12 weeks are required to produce finished flowering plants in 11 cm pots

10 Plant vigor: Vigorous

Root structure: Fibrous

Stem: Yellow-green RHS 144

Lateral branches: 5 – 6 in quantity; 7-10 mm diameter; 14 cm in length
(including flower)

15 Internode length: 3 cm

Foliage:

Quantity: 4 – 5 pairs per lateral branch

Arrangement: Opposite, decussate

Length: Up to 16 cm

20 Width: 14 cm

Shape: Elliptical, acuminate tip, decurrent base, crenate margin

Texture: Glabrous

Color: Young leaf upper side green RHS N134A; young leaf under

side gray-green RHS 189C; mature leaf upper side RHS

N134A; mature leaf under side RHS 189C

Venation: Upper side RHS 135C; under side RHS 144A

Petiole: 3 – 4 cm length, 4 – 6 mm diameter, color RHS 144A

5 FLOWER:

Arrangement: Composite flowers in leaf axils

Inflorescence type: Capitulum

Inflorescence height: 3 – 4 cm

Inflorescence width: 7 – 8 cm

10 Flowering habit: Upright

Quantity of flowers: 2 per lateral stem

Flower longevity: 7 days on the plant

Bud:

Quantity: 3 per lateral stem

15 Shape: Globular

Size: Up to 2 cm in length, 1 cm diameter

Color: RHS 144C

Petal:

Appearance: Disc, tubular to single, fused petal; ray, involute to
20 almost tubular, not fused

Shape: Disc, lanceolate; ray oval, involute

Number: Disc, 5 fused; ray, 5 fused

Length: Disc 3 mm, ray 15 – 30 mm

Width: Disc 4 mm, ray 20 – 24 mm

Margin: Entire
Apex: Rounded
Color: White RHS 155 A, both surfaces, both mature and immature

Sepals:

5 Length: 4 mm
Width: 4 mm
Margin: Entire
Base: Fused
Apex: Rounded
10 Color: Immature upper side RHS 144D to white; immature under side
RHS 144C; mature upper side RHS 144D to white; mature
under side RHS 191B
Calyx: 4 mm length, 13 mm diameter
Peduncle: 4 cm length, 3 mm diameter; strength: strong; color RHS N144D with
15 stripes of RHS 141A

Reproductive organs:

Anthers: 4 mm in length, RHS 23B
Pollen: RHS 14A
Pistils: 1 per flower, 12 mm length
20 Style: 8 mm length, RHS 1B
Ovary: RHS 150B

Temperature tolerance: High tolerance to 35 C; low tolerance to 0 C